

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kohichi YUASA et al.

Serial No.: 10/702,040

Filing Date: November 6, 2003

For: POINT MANAGEMENT METHOD,
MANAGEMENT COMPUTER,
COMPUTER READABLE RECORDING
MEDIUM, AND COMPUTER DATA
SIGNAL

Examiner: C. A. Hoar

Group Art Unit: 4172

Confirmation No.: 7415

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of foreign documents and non-patent literature are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b were cited in a Japanese Office Action mailed on October 23, 2007, directed to a counterpart foreign application and have not been previously cited. A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) follows:

I hereby certify that each item of information was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Concerning a brief explanation of relevancy of the teachings of the cited prior art references to the present invention, Applicants desire to substitute it with the comments of the Japanese Examiner indicated in the Office Action in accordance with MPEP §609 A(3). A translation of the attached communication from the Japanese Patent Office is available to the USPTO through the Dossier Access System. Should the translation be unavailable, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to assure that appropriate information is available for consideration.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance. A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including

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Atty. Docket No. 116692004700

extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing (116692004700).

Dated: January 23, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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